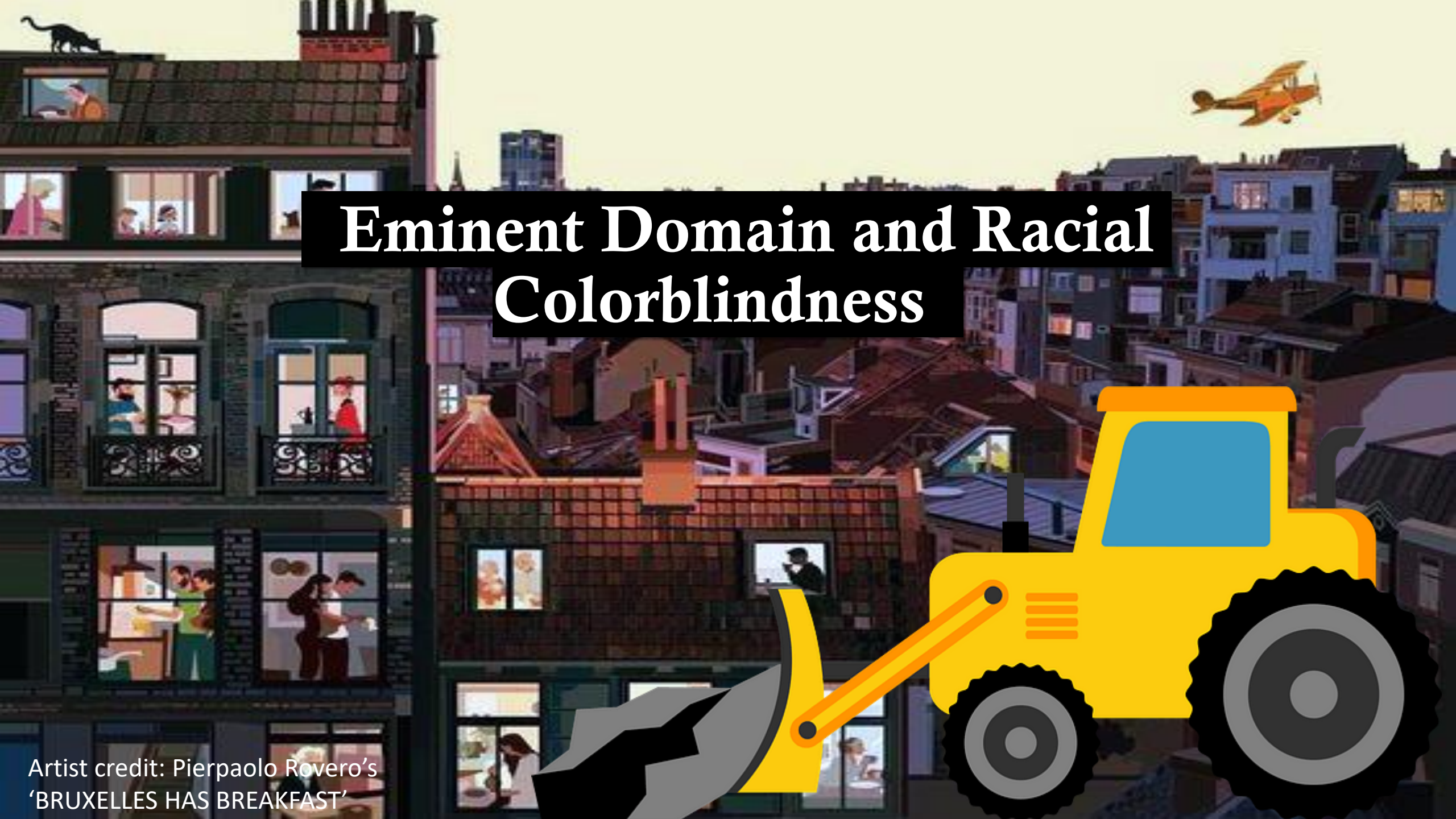


Eminent Domain and Racial Colorblindness

Artist credit: Pierpaolo Rovero's
'BRUXELLES HAS BREAKFAST'



My Research Question

How is the usage of eminent domain linked to the treatment and history of communities of color, in conjunction to racial color blindness?

“significantly more residents (in areas targeted by eminent domain) are ethnic or racial minorities, have completed significantly less education and live on significantly less income”

(Carpenter & Ross, 2009, pg. 2456)

What is Eminent Domain?

- The federal government's “authority to take private property, as long as the taking is for a "public use", and "just compensation" is provided to the property owner.”
- Source: <https://www.nar.realtor/eminent-domain>

What is Racial Colorblindness?

- The ideology that promotes “to not just see race or skin color, but also (be blind to) the racial disparities, inequities, history of violence and current trauma perpetuated within a racist society”.
- Source: <https://fitchburgstate.libguides.com/c.php?g=1046516&p=7616506>

The conditions for Eminent Domain

- Development considered “public use”
 - Could benefit an entire region or just a smaller population
 - Could be by public or private developers
 - Depending on the state, must only occur in **blighted areas** and is not required to benefit residents of blighted area (example: Sports Stadiums)
- Just compensation
 - Compensation must be “according to the fair market value of the property”
 - Does not consider/acknowledge the challenges of POC to find new homes/communities
 - “While white families had more options for neighborhoods where they could move, and greater access to traditional mortgages, the loss of community and history reverberated across the color line” (Tearing down Black America)

The abuse of eminent domain

Eminent Domain is being used as an economic tool and communities of colors are the targeted victims of it.

I will be examining:

- Barclays Center
- Cross Bronx Expressway
- Oakland Chinatown

Thank you for listening!